

MAR 8 - 2019

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO ISSUE A
COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP IN HONOR OF ALFRED AHOLO APAKA.

1 WHEREAS, Alfred Aholo Apaka was born on March 19, 1919, in
2 Honolulu on the island of Oahu in the Territory of Hawaii and
3 was a renowned Hawaii vocalist and engaging performer whose
4 music has been a lasting presence delighting listeners and
5 nurturing an appreciation for hapa haole music, a Hawaii-born
6 and -inspired music genre featuring songs about Hawaii or some
7 aspect of Hawaiian culture with English lyrics; and
8

9 WHEREAS, the son of Alfred A. Apaka, Sr., who was himself
10 an accomplished musician, and the grandnephew of Lydia
11 Ka'onohiponiponiokalani Aholo, who was the hānai daughter of
12 Queen Liliuokalani, Alfred Apaka's musical influences began
13 early in life; and
14

15 WHEREAS, Alfred Apaka's early musical training and
16 performances included playing the ukulele and string bass and
17 singing in the Roosevelt High School chorus and the Mormon
18 Church choir; and
19

20 WHEREAS, with his romantic baritone vocals and appealing
21 performances, Alfred Apaka is known as "The Golden Voice of
22 Hawaii"; and
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24 WHEREAS, Alfred Apaka performed his first professional
25 engagement as a singer for Don McDiarmid, Sr. at the Royal
26 Hawaiian Hotel in Waikiki in 1938; two years later he performed
27 as part of Ray Kinney's band at the Hotel Lexington in New York
28 City and made "Hawaii's Charm," his first recording under his
29 own name; and



1 WHEREAS, Alfred Apaka's music extended beyond Hawaii's
2 shores where it garnered interest and appreciation from people
3 nationally and worldwide; and
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5 WHEREAS, in 1952, Alfred Apaka performed on Bob Hope's
6 national television show and Bing Crosby's radio show, recorded
7 with the Andrews Sisters and Danny Steward and His Islanders for
8 Decca Records, and was featured in appearances on Ed Sullivan's
9 Talk of The Town and The Dinah Shore Show; and
10

11 WHEREAS, in 1954, after making other recordings and
12 performing in numerous locations on the mainland United States,
13 Alfred Apaka returned to Hawaii to work at Henry Kaiser's
14 Hawaiian Village Hotel in Waikiki, where he entertained Hawaii
15 residents and visitors; and
16

17 WHEREAS, one of the greatest Hawaiian vocalists of the
18 Twentieth Century, Alfred Apaka's remarkable career was cut
19 short by death from a heart attack in 1960 at the young age of
20 40, but to this day, he remains a cultural icon with fans around
21 the world; and
22

23 WHEREAS, Alfred Apaka's music and talents have endured with
24 such memorable recordings as "Aloha Oe," "Sleepy Lagoon," "I
25 Will Remember You," "Hawaiian Wedding Song," "Far Across the
26 Sea," "Forever," and "Hapa Haole Hula Girl"; and
27

28 WHEREAS, in 1999, an album of Alfred Apaka's lost
29 recordings was released as "Lost Recordings of Hawaii's Golden
30 Voice," which was subsequently awarded the prestigious Na Hoku
31 Hanohano Award; and
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33 WHEREAS, Alfred Apaka's legacy continues to promote Hawaii
34 worldwide and unify people through shared appreciation and bonds
35 of his lasting music; and
36

37 WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service recognizes the
38 lives and accomplishments of outstanding Americans with
39 commemorative postage stamps; and
40

41 WHEREAS, March 19, 1919, marks the centennial of Alfred
42 Aholo Apaka's birth and his musical contributions to Hawaii, the



1 nation, and the world, are worthy of recognition and honor
 2 through a United States Postal Service commemorative postage
 3 stamp; and
 4

5 WHEREAS, a stamp commemorating Alfred Apaka's birth
 6 centennial would be only the second commemorative stamp issued
 7 to honor a Native Hawaiian and Polynesian-American; now,
 8 therefore,
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
 11 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of
 12 Representatives concurring, that the United States Postal
 13 Service is requested to issue a commemorative postage stamp
 14 recognizing Alfred Aholo Apaka on March 19, 2019; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Postal
 17 Service is requested to first release the commemorative stamp in
 18 Waikiki, the place where Alfred Apaka established himself as a
 19 performer, and then to the rest of the nation; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the people of Hawaii are urged
 22 to support this effort to recognize Alfred Apaka for his
 23 accomplishments and talents that bring pride to our State and
 24 Nation and continue to forge goodwill through the love and
 25 enjoyment of music; and
 26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Postmaster General
 29 of the United States; Chair of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory
 30 Committee; Postmaster General of Hawaii; members of Hawaii's
 31 Congressional Delegation; the Governor; and Mayors of the City
 32 and County of Honolulu, and Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui.
 33
 34
 35

OFFERED BY:

[Handwritten signatures and initials]
 Kurt Fenech
 D.K.
 4.1.2019
 Michelle Tidani
 Ed Prince
 Josephine R. Brown
 M.H.

